

KHRUSHCHEV'S FOREIGN POLICY SPEECH

- I. Khrushchev's speech to closing session of Supreme Soviet last Saturday was given heavy coverage in the ^{our} press, but several important points not fully brought out. *The First full dress exposition for the "new course" in Foreign Policy.*
- A. Speech was notable for moderate and restrained tone.
- B. Khrushchev indicated satisfaction with "noticeable improvement in the international situation"; he claimed major shift has occurred in Western policy because of "more sober evaluation" in West of "position of forces in international arena."
- C. He repeated favorable assessments of US visit, and stressed importance of communiqué statement that all questions should be settled by peaceful means through negotiation.
- II. Most important, however, is evidence in speech that Khrushchev is having difficulty winning unqualified support from bloc leaders, especially Chinese, ^{*(possible East Germans)*} for his present foreign policy course.
- A. Apparently in response to ^{*these*} doubts ~~and reservations voiced~~ by ~~Chinese~~ and other bloc leaders, Khrushchev defended "flexibility" of his policy.
1. He seemed almost to be pleading for recognition of necessity of "peaceful coexistence."
2. He repeatedly contended "mutual concessions" are necessary in present state of East-West relations-- but hastened to add, "one must not confuse mutual concessions in the interest of peaceful coexistence" with ideological concessions *as to the ultimate*

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B. Gravity of problem created by Chinese coolness underscored by Khrushchev's resort to extraordinary device of resurrecting episode of Trotsky's opposition to Lenin's decision to make peace with Germany in early 1918. (~~Incidentally, except for documents accompanying "secret speech," this is first known mention of Trotsky's policies by a Soviet leader in decades.~~)

1. Khrushchev appeared to be drawing parallel between (a) Lenin's willingness to pay a price for peace "to ensure for the young Soviet state the possibility of peaceful construction of socialism" and (b) his own desire for a period of peace in which to achieve world leadership for the USSR.

2. Khrushchev's denunciation of Trotsky's "adventurist policy" of "neither peace nor war" was almost certainly addressed ~~in large part~~ to Mao Tse-tung and colleagues (who he apparently feels are hampering his own "sweetness and light" policy).

3. Khrushchev charged that Trotsky's line was "used by German imperialism against the Soviet country," + closed ~~with~~ ^{blunt} ~~stark~~ statement, "Such were the fruits of adventurism in politics."

a. This ^{could} ~~may~~ have been aimed at critics in Khrushchev's own regime, ^{possible} ~~as well~~ but it hard to suggest who they are except - the purged
He has "silent" critics

4 The 42 Annual celebration of Oct Revolution

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on Nov 7, may give for her class.